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ABSTRACT

This newspaper is designed to help students think about careers and formulate plans and goals. It is made up of short exercises and games that focus students' attention on their values and interests and suggest how those interests can relate to careers. Activities include checklists, score sheets, matching games, fill-in-the-blanks sentences, word puzzles, and word finds. Answers are provided. (KC)

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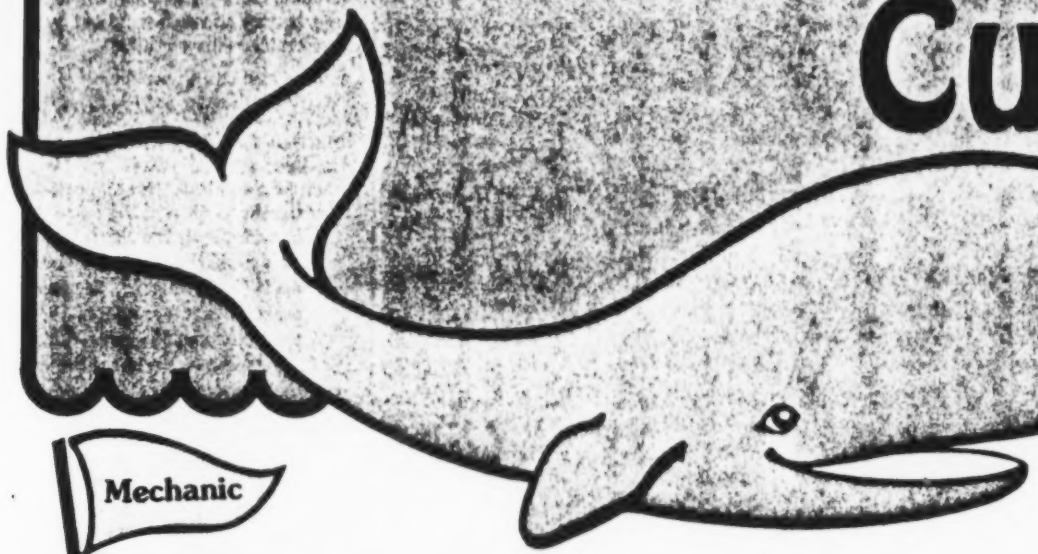
Connecticut Career Currents



Charting A Course For Your Future

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Your Career...

Welcome to **Career Currents**, a newspaper filled with career information and self-discovery activities. This newspaper will help you make some career decisions.

Begin by looking at yourself - your interests, values, skills, abilities and personality.

- ☆ **What are your favorite subjects?**
- ☆ **Do you have any hobbies?**
- ☆ **If you could spend your time doing anything, what would it be?**
- ☆ **What skills and abilities do you have?**
- ☆ **Are you talkative or quiet?**
- ☆ **Would you like to use your hands to build things, your mind to create ideas or your heart to help people?**

Then, find out about the world of work. There are more than 20,000 occupations to choose from. How many can you name?

Before you know it, your high school years will be right ahead of you. There may be high school courses you need to put you on the road to your career. So begin planning now.

There are some things you can do today to get ready for a career. You can:

- ☆ **Develop good study habits;**
- ☆ **Learn good basic skills in language arts and math;**
- ☆ **Get involved in school or outside activities; and**
- ☆ **Participate in activities that will develop your interests.**

Career Currents will help you begin thinking about careers and formulating some plans and goals. Share the information with your parents, teachers and counselors. These people know a lot about you. They can help guide you in the right direction.

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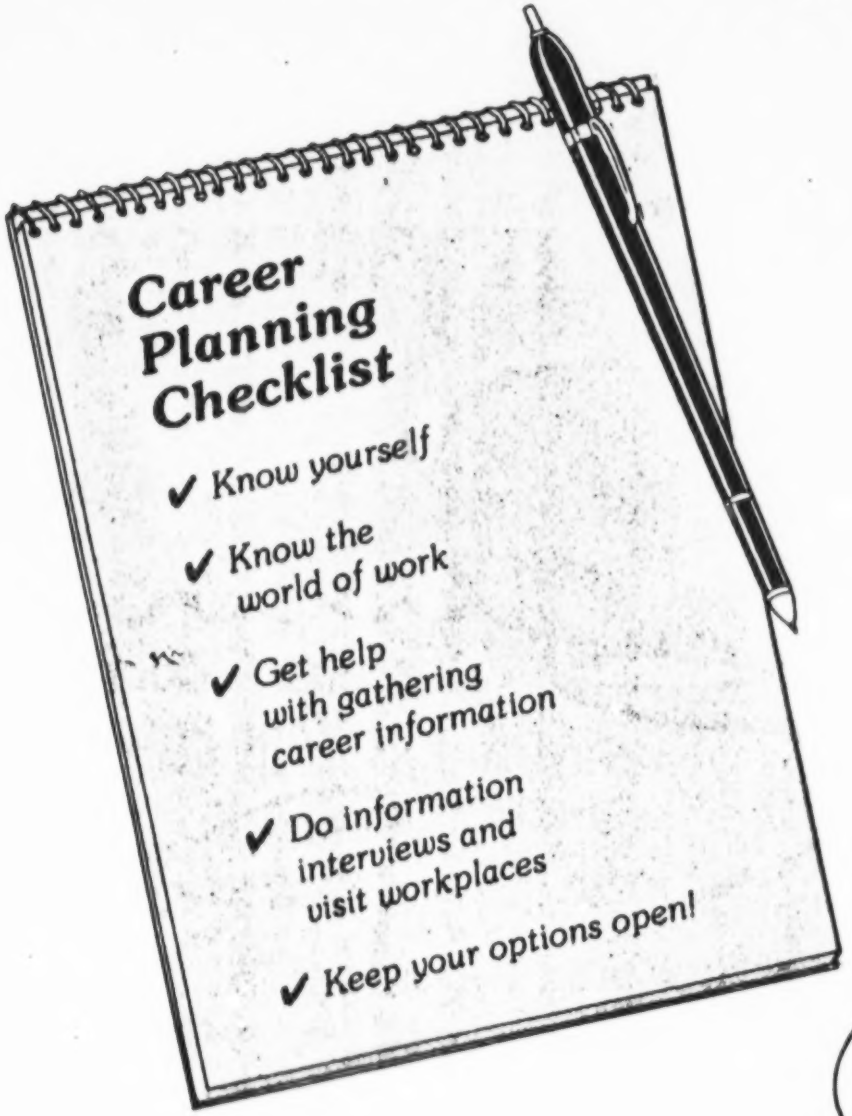
Student:_____

Group/Home Room:_____


Career Planning Checklist
✔ Know yourself
✔ Know the world of work
✔ Get help with gathering career information
✔ Do information interviews and visit workplaces
✔ Keep your options open!

Connecticut Career Currents

Career Currents is published by the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) under a grant from the Connecticut State Department of Education and the Connecticut State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee (SOICC), which is an interagency committee providing career information to youth and adults.

Layout and design services:
Penny Guerin

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- Connecticut Middle School Counselors
- Maine SOICC's PREP Curriculum
- Florida Department of Education's Career Cruiser Newspaper
- Career Success Magazine
- Connecticut Department of Labor
- New Mexico SOICC

For further information, contact:

State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee (SOICC)
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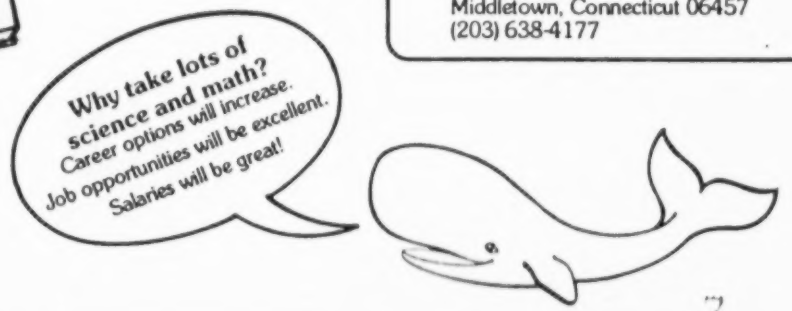
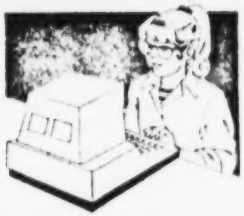
Middletown, Connecticut 06457
(203) 638-4177


Why take lots of science and math?
Career options will increase.
Job opportunities will be excellent.
Salaries will be great!

Which careers best match your interests? To start your career search, take this quick and easy quiz to help identify activities you enjoy. Then go talk to a counselor at your school or at a nearby public vocational center for a more in-depth exploration into the right career direction for you.

To take the test, check those activities you would like doing (don't worry about whether or not you'd be good at any of them –this quiz measures interests only, not abilities).



___ 1. Solve mathematical problems.

___ 2. Develop a computer program.

___ 3. Study animals.

___ 4. Read science magazines.

___ 5. Play games that require strategy.

___ 6. Take a group of children on an outing.

___ 7. Make arrangements over the phone.

___ 8. Belong to social clubs.

___ 9. Help sick people get well.

___ 10. Help people solve their personal problems.

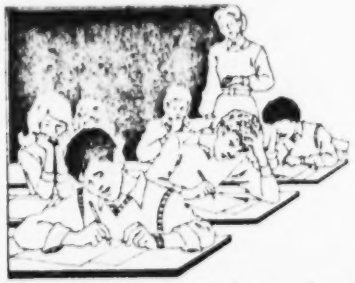
___ 11. Do drawings and paintings.

___ 12. Go to the theater.

___ 13. Listen to different kinds of music.

___ 14. Take a dance class.

___ 15. Redecorate your room.



___16. Start your own business.

___17. Study marketing in school.

___18. Be a committee chairperson.

___19. Run for public office.

___20. Play the stock market.

___ 21. Work with your hands.

___ 22. Fix machinery.

___ 23. Work outdoors.

___ 24. Use your physical coordination.

___ 25. See the tangible results of your work.

___ 26. Have regular work hours.

___ 27. Do basic bookkeeping.

___ 28. Improve the efficiency of an office.

___ 29. Find ways a business can save money.

___ 30. Use office equipment.

To calculate your score, count the number of boxes you checked for:

Items 1-5___ 6-10___ 11-15___ 16-20___ 21-25___ 26-30___

Scoring

A high score for items 1 through 5 indicates you have "theoretical/ investigative" traits. Your interests include scientific activities, problem-solving, investigation and research, and working independently. Possible careers: research scientist, mathematician, meteorologist.

A high score for items 6 through 10 indicates you have "social" traits. You enjoy people-oriented activities: interaction with others and being of service to them. Possible careers include counselor, teacher, nurse.

A high score for items 11 through 15 indicates you have "aesthetic/artistic" traits. You prefer those activities that involve art, literature, music and dance. You have a need for self-expression, and an appreciation for aesthetic qualities. Possible careers: commercial artist, fashion designer, journalist.

A high score for items 16 through 20 indicates you have "enterprising/economic/political" traits. You are interested in securing a position of leadership and power, working toward financial success, and participating in competitive activities that involve risk-taking. Possible occupations include entrepreneur, politician, investment banker.

A high score for items 21 through 25 indicates you have "realistic/ concrete" traits. You enjoy doing "hands-on" activities rather than engaging in heavy analysis; concrete problems as opposed to abstract ones; mechanical, construction and repair activities. Possible careers: automotive mechanic, electronics technician, construction worker.

A high score for items 26 through 39 indicates you have "conventional" traits. Your interests include working within an organizational structure in an activity that requires attention to detail and accuracy. Possible careers: secretary, accountant/ bookkeeper, paralegal.

Note: Your interests may not fit neatly into one category. A mixture of two and three areas produces even more career possibilities. A career counselor can help you zero in on which careers suit your particular mixture of interests.

MATCHING GAME

Directions: Match each job name with a job description. Write the letter of the job description next to the job name. If you don't know an answer, guess!

1. Accountant ___
2. Civil Engineer ___
3. Computer Service Technician ___
4. Correction Officer ___
5. Dental Hygienist ___
6. Graphic Designer ___
7. Glazier ___
8. Machine Tool Operator ___
9. Mason ___
10. Medical Records Technician ___
11. Nannie ___
12. Social Worker ___

a. I work in private homes and care for infants. I prepare bottles, change diapers and perform other duties.

b. I cut, install and remove all types of glass and glass substitutes.

c. I work with numbers and keep track of money that is earned, spent and paid for taxes.

d. I am trained to clean people's teeth. I also teach people how to keep their teeth and gums healthy and clean.

e. I am in charge of people who are serving sentences in jails or prisons. I keep order and enforce rules.

f. I use bricks, concrete blocks and stones to build houses, fireplaces, walls and walkways.

g. I run machines that are used to bend and shape metal. I work in factories that make metal products.

h. I design and plan roads, tunnels, bridges, dams, airports and water systems.

i. I help people who are poor, hungry, homeless or troubled find the services they need to live better lives.

j. I keep computer equipment working properly. I adjust, clean and oil parts and check for faulty circuits and connections.

k. I handle medical records of patients. I make sure that these records contain examination and test results and doctor's and nurse's notes.

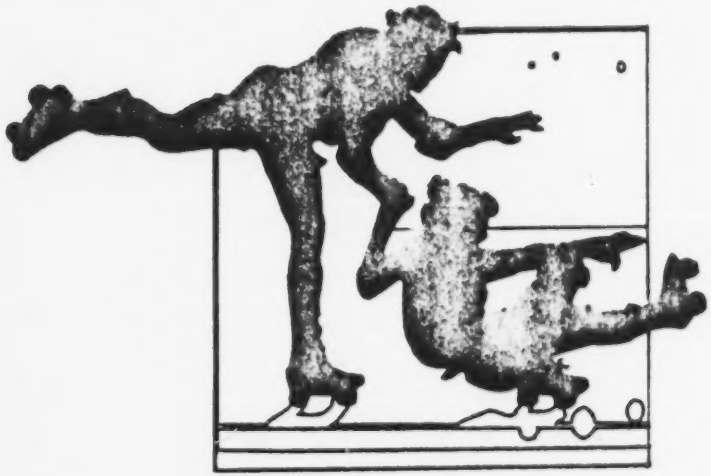
l. I create the layout and design for books, newsletters, reports and brochures. I select the art work and type styles to be used.

Answers on page 7.

Oops . . .

Your values are showing!

Knowing what you value will help you make good career decisions. For example, if a student completes #6 like this – 6. I am happiest when *I get A's in school*, this indicates that achievement is valued by that student. Other students may value friendships and social relationships more.



Read each sentence below, then write down your first response.

1. In my free time, I like to _____
2. My most important possession is _____
3. I am bored when _____
4. Something that really bugs me is _____
5. I daydream about _____
6. I am happiest when _____
7. My favorite people are those who _____
8. I work best when _____
9. I am not happy when _____
10. I'm proud of _____
11. I feel best about myself when _____
12. I find it difficult to _____
13. What I want most is _____
14. My friends would describe me as _____
15. I strongly believe in _____

What did you discover about your values?

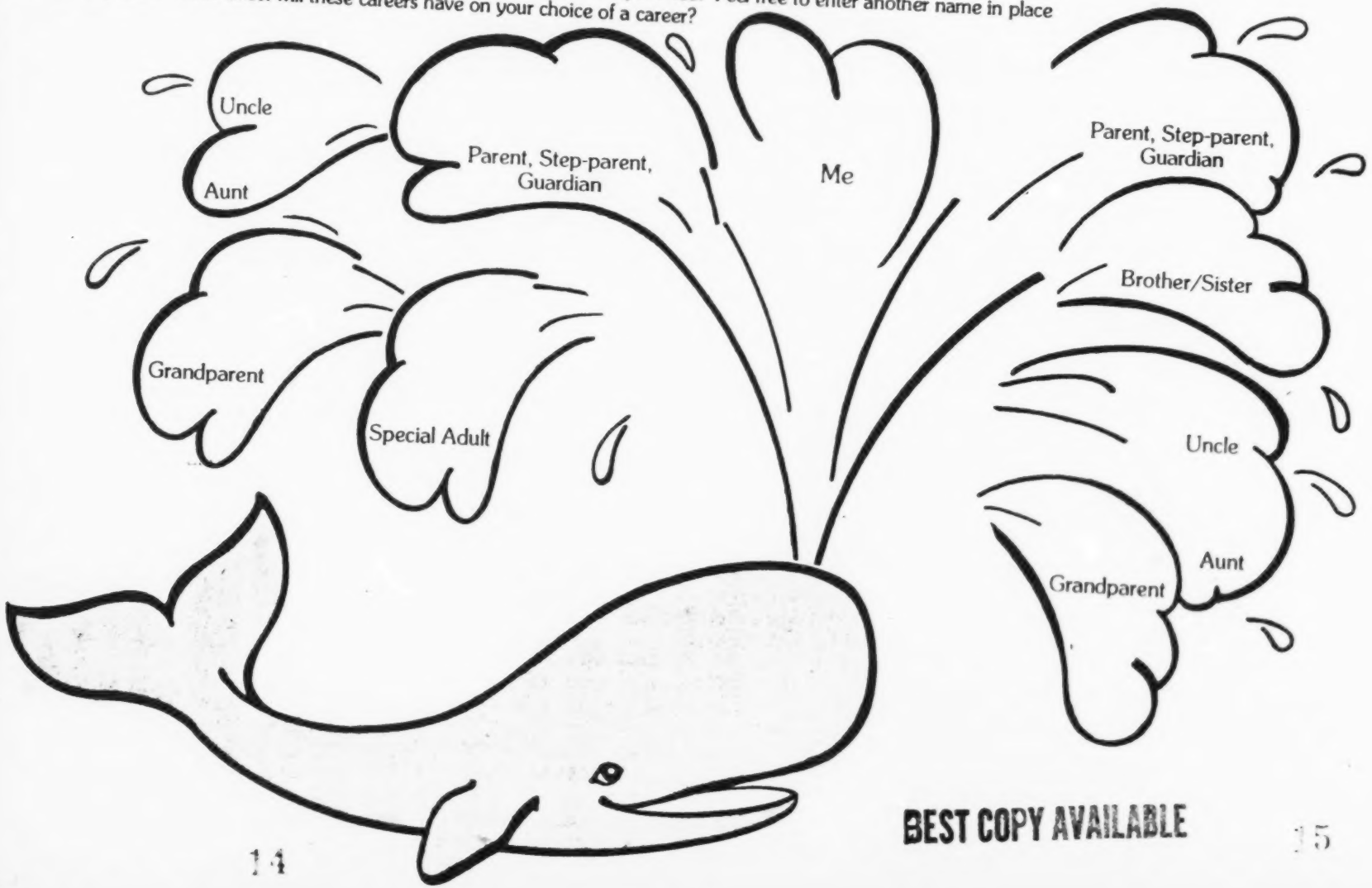
_____

_____

_____

Spouting Off

Fill in each splash with the name of the occupation or career of the people listed. Feel free to enter another name in place of existing ones. What effect will these careers have on your choice of a career?



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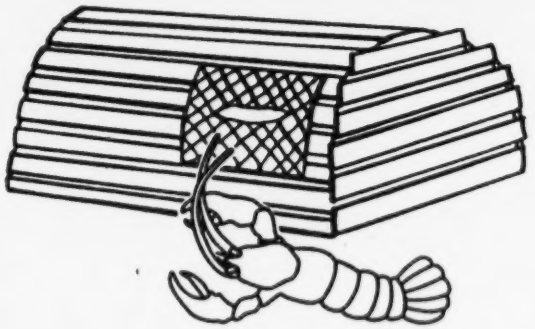
Career Choice Traps



1. **The "I'll-Meet-Your-Needs" Trap:** I have a close relative who would be very proud of me if I became a teacher. I don't want to hurt my relative's feelings so that is what I will become.

2. **The "Don't-Be-Different" Trap:** I'm a girl and I want to become an auto mechanic. That's a job for boys, so I'm going to become a waitress.

3. **The "Glamour" Trap:** I've decided to become a fashion model because they wear a lot of beautiful and expensive clothes.

4. **The "Behind-the-Curtain" Trap:** I've decided to become an architect. I don't know much about it but it sounds good.

5. **The "There's-No-Tomorrow" Trap:** I want a car and some spending money. If I can get any full-time job, I'm quitting school.

6. **The "All-or-Nothing-at-All" Trap:** I've decided to become a medical doctor and nothing else will do.

7. **The "Head-in-the-Sand" Trap:** I don't do well in math or science courses, but I've decided to become an engineer anyway. They make good money.

8. **The "Be-Friendly" Trap:** My friend is going to take biology next year, so I'm going to take it, too.

9. **The "You-Know-What's-Right-for-Me" Trap:** I know very little and you are so much wiser. Tell me what to do with my life.

10. **The "Something-Will-Come-Along" Trap:** I don't need to do any thinking about a career now. I'll have plenty of time later.

Career Love Letters

(Unscramble the letters to discover the occupations.)

1. I'm head over heels for you.

   tgnmays _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

2. I hear music whenever I think of you.

   dunccroot _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

3. You'll be my everlasting flame.

   hgrieffeirt _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

4. You score 100 percent with me.

   ecerhta _ _ _ _ _ _ _

5. You add spice to my life.

   efch _ _ _ _

6. Your assets add up to a perfect figure.

   tanoccantu _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

7. I have my head in the clouds over you.

   lopti _ _ _ _ _

8. I feel my heart beat.

   rotcod _ _ _ _ _ _

9. I'm sweet on you.

   ayndkremac _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

10. You make my pulse race.

    nnrreu _ _ _ _ _ _

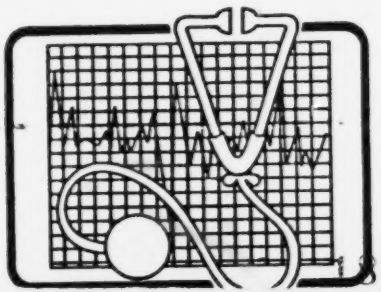
Answers on page 7.

Preparing for the World of Work

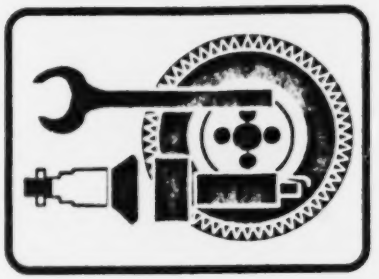
Students who go directly to work after earning a high school diploma need nearly the same basic skills and the ability to learn and adapt to changes in the workplace as those going on to college. This is the finding of the National Academy of Sciences in a report, *High School and the Changing Workplace*. Here is a list of skills that are very important in getting and keeping a good job.

1. Ability to reason and solve problems. Examples of this are:
   - figuring out new ways to solve difficult problems;
   - evaluating possible solutions; and
   - reaching decisions based on good information.

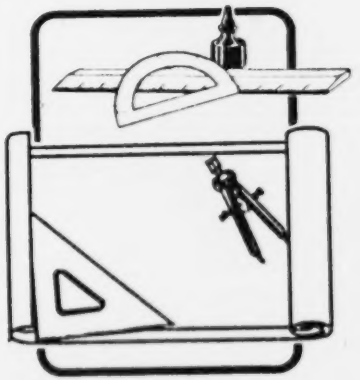
2. Ability to read well. Every student preparing for work should be able to:
   - read and evaluate written material;
   - summarize important ideas, and
   - interpret tables, charts and graphs.



3. Ability to write clearly and concisely. Skillful writing means you can:
   - organize information so others can understand it;
   - use correct spelling, punctuation and capitalization; and
   - write so others can read it.

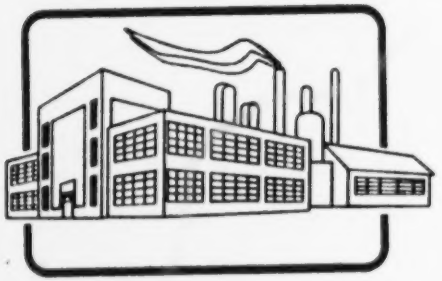


4. Oral communication skills. This means the ability to:
   - communicate in English;
   - understand and give instructions; and
   - participate effectively in discussions.



5. Understanding of basic mathematics. Students should be able to:
   - add, subtract, multiply and divide whole numbers, fractions and decimals;
   - measure length, width and height; and
   - calculate simple interest

6. Knowledge of basic science and technology, including:
   - acquaintance with computers and their applications.



7. Good interpersonal relationships. Effective interpersonal relations means you can:
   - respect the opinions, customs and differences of others;
   - offer and accept criticism constructively; and handle conflict maturely.

8. Positive personal work habits and attitudes. Good work habits require:
   - a willingness to learn;
   - self-discipline, including dependability and being punctual; a realistic positive attitude toward one's self;
   - appropriate dress and grooming; and
   - the ability to accept responsibility and work with or without supervision.

Careers in the USA

Find and circle the careers described in the puzzle. Write in the name of the career next to the description.

T	U	S	K	L	L	V	X	N	O	P	E	I	T	I
A	B	S	T	O	R	E	M	A	N	A	G	E	R	T
X	B	O	F	A	K	T	U	C	N	A	V	L	A	M
L	E	O	N	N	A	T	A	C	T	O	R	A	B	E
A	A	O	F	O	B	V	B	O	X	D	B	X	N	C
N	U	T	F	F	C	R	B	U	Y	E	R	T	R	H
N	T	L	N	F	A	E	T	N	I	H	O	G	R	A
O	I	J	K	I	P	P	A	T	T	Z	K	A	E	N
U	C	T	A	C	A	A	L	A	M	L	E	L	F	I
N	I	L	T	E	P	I	K	N	G	P	R	Z	R	C
C	A	O	H	R	Q	R	H	T	Q	P	O	K	I	E
E	N	F	L	R	N	C	A	F	B	C	D	O	G	Q
R	E	D	E	C	Y	A	K	J	S	I	N	G	E	R
S	L	G	T	O	B	T	P	H	K	X	B	N	R	L
C	A	T	E	R	E	R	L	I	N	P	T	O	A	T
O	C	A	O	C	A	R	T	O	O	N	I	S	T	B
B	Q	N	M	F	R	Q	X	P	L	C	O	M	I	C
S	L	N	P	K	S	T	L	A	O	O	F	C	O	A
A	T	R	L	H	M	O	R	T	I	C	I	A	N	N

_____1. A person in this entertainment career gets laughs.

_____2. Everyone eventually needs someone in this personal services career.

_____3. You can call someone in this product services career when your TV breaks.

_____4. When you need money, someone in this trade and finance career may be able to help you.

_____5. A person in this personal services career is a big help at a wedding.

_____6. Sugar Ray Leonard, and Michael Jordan have both pursued this recreation career.

_____7. A person in this recreation and entertainment career wrote "Peanuts".

_____8. When your car won't start, you can call a person in this product services career.

_____9. When you want to buy stock, you see someone in this trade and finance career.

_____10. Sting, Jon Bon Jovi and Madonna are members of this recreation and entertainment career.

_____11. This type of mechanic repairs air conditioners.

_____12. A person in this trade and finance career keeps shopping malls in business.

_____13. For a new look and style, you would see a member of this personal services career.

_____14. Someone in this trade and finance career helps prepare income tax returns.

_____15. It takes many members of this recreation and entertainment career to make a move.

_____16. A person in this trade and finance career chooses what can be purchased.

_____17. A person in this recreation and entertainment career tells you a lot.

Answers on page 7.

Career Imaginings

Directions: Read the questions below. Then close your eyes and let your imagination take over. Jot down a description of what you see.

It's the year 2001. Where are you working? In a school, factory, hospital, office, in a forest, or on the highway?
Describe what your workplace looks like.

_____

_____

_____

_____

What is your job? Do you need any tools, machines or equipment in order to do your job? Do you have a boss, or are ***you*** the boss?
Describe your job.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Information Interviewing and JOB SHADOWING

Information interviewing is when you interview someone who has a job that you would like more information about. **Job shadowing** is when you have an opportunity to follow someone around (or shadow) as they perform their job.

1. Write a brief description of a job that someone you know has, or a job that interests you.

_____

_____

Word Search

The 20 fastest growing occupations in the U.S. through 1995.

A	M	L	O	R	Y	S	E	L	A	S	S	E	I	T	I	R	U	C	E
S	N	A	I	C	I	N	H	C	E	T	G	N	E	H	C	E	M	A	N
R	C	W	P	K	E	S	C	R	T	E	C	H	I	O	E	M	B	G	H
Q	O	Y	A	S	N	A	I	C	I	N	H	C	E	T	C	I	N	O	R
B	M	E	D	I	C	A	L	A	S	S	I	S	T	A	N	T	S	F	H
E	P	R	C	A	E	M	E	B	S	N	S	A	R	U	X	E	N	G	Y
D	U	S	S	R	C	P	N	S	E	S	R	E	E	N	I	G	N	E	E
C	T	R	R	O	O	C	N	C	S	M	B	O	T	R	A	J	N	S	A
P	E	S	E	C	S	R	O	Q	R	C	W	E	R	E	A	R	A	R	O
H	R	C	E	E	X	T	S	U	U	E	H	E	A	H	R	G	S	E	A
S	O	L	N	T	U	G	R	E	N	H	N	I	S	T	N	T	N	C	I
T	P	N	I	C	A	I	E	T	C	T	O	E	L	T	N	O	U	I	N
S	E	L	G	E	C	G	P	N	C	K	A	O	R	E	R	U	A	F	N
Y	R	F	N	B	O	R	L	S	E	C	E	N	G	A	E	S	T	F	K
L	A	T	E	U	E	E	A	R	S	T	O	A	T	U	N	F	N	O	T
A	T	M	L	A	H	U	G	E	G	N	L	M	I	S	T	E	T	N	S
N	O	C	A	C	I	H	E	L	G	E	N	E	I	R	R	Y	E	O	T
A	R	O	C	O	E	B	L	K	V	D	S	N	U	S	E	C	A	I	T
S	S	U	I	H	N	J	A	A	O	A	M	L	P	L	O	P	E	T	Y
M	V	S	N	M	A	N	R	E	L	A	T	E	O	A	U	G	F	C	I
E	C	H	A	D	S	T	A	R	O	R	M	E	E	C	T	I	P	E	T
T	A	I	H	E	O	M	P	H	Y	S	I	C	A	L	T	H	E	R	A
S	N	R	C	N	L	D	P	E	Q	U	I	P	R	E	P	A	I	R	E
Y	P	C	E	C	E	R	N	O	O	Q	C	Y	F	I	E	R	T	O	I
S	R	E	M	M	A	R	G	O	R	P	R	E	T	U	P	M	O	C	M

P	I	A	E	E
E	T	Y	I	P	I	W	R
A	U	G	F	C	I	R	M	C	E	N
C	T	I	P	E	T	E	O	I	R	R
L	T	H	E	R	A	P	I	S	T	S
R	E	P	A	I	R	E	R	S	Y	T	P
E	R	T	O	I	E	V	H	E	R
P	M	O	C	M	A	E	P	E	T

Word List

Answers on page 7.

Accountants
Computer Operators
Computer Programmers
Correction Officers
DP Equip(ment) Repairers
E(lectrical)/E(lectronic) Engineers
Electronic Technicians
Employment Interviewers
Lawyers
Mech(anical) Eng(ineering) Technicians
Mechanical Engineers
Medical Assistants
Nurses
Paralegal Personnel
Peripheral EDP Operators
Physical Therapists
Physician Assistants
Securities Sales
Systems Analysts
Travel Agents

2. Find some information about this job. If possible, ask your counselor to help you **interview** or **shadow** someone who does this type of work. During the interview or shadowing experience, get the information to answer the questions below. If you can't interview or shadow someone, answer these questions by doing some research.

What are the job duties? _____

_____

_____

What are the working conditions? (circle answers)

- **Is it indoor or outdoor work?**
- **Does it require daytime or evening hours?**
- **Is the work environment noisy or quiet?**

What skills and interests does a worker need? _____

_____

What education and training is necessary? _____

_____

What is the salary range for this position? _____

_____

Name some places where this job is done. _____

_____

3. After the interview, write a brief description of what the job really involves. Was your first description on target?

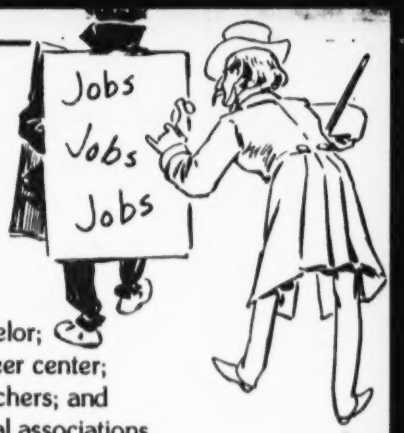
_____

_____

_____

Page 6, Connecticut Career Currents

Where Can You Get Good Career Information?



- From your guidance counselor;
- In the school library or career center;
- From your parents and teachers; and
- From trade and professional associations.

Look for --

Books

The Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH). The OOH provides detailed information about 250 occupations. It describes what workers do on the job, the training and education needed, and the salary you could expect to earn. It also contains addresses of associations to write to for more information. *(A U.S. Department of Labor publication.)*

Exploring Careers. Exploring Careers provides stories of people working in more than 300 occupations. You can find out exactly what a job involves by reading about people who do that type of work. *(Published by Jist Works, inc.)*

Computer Programs

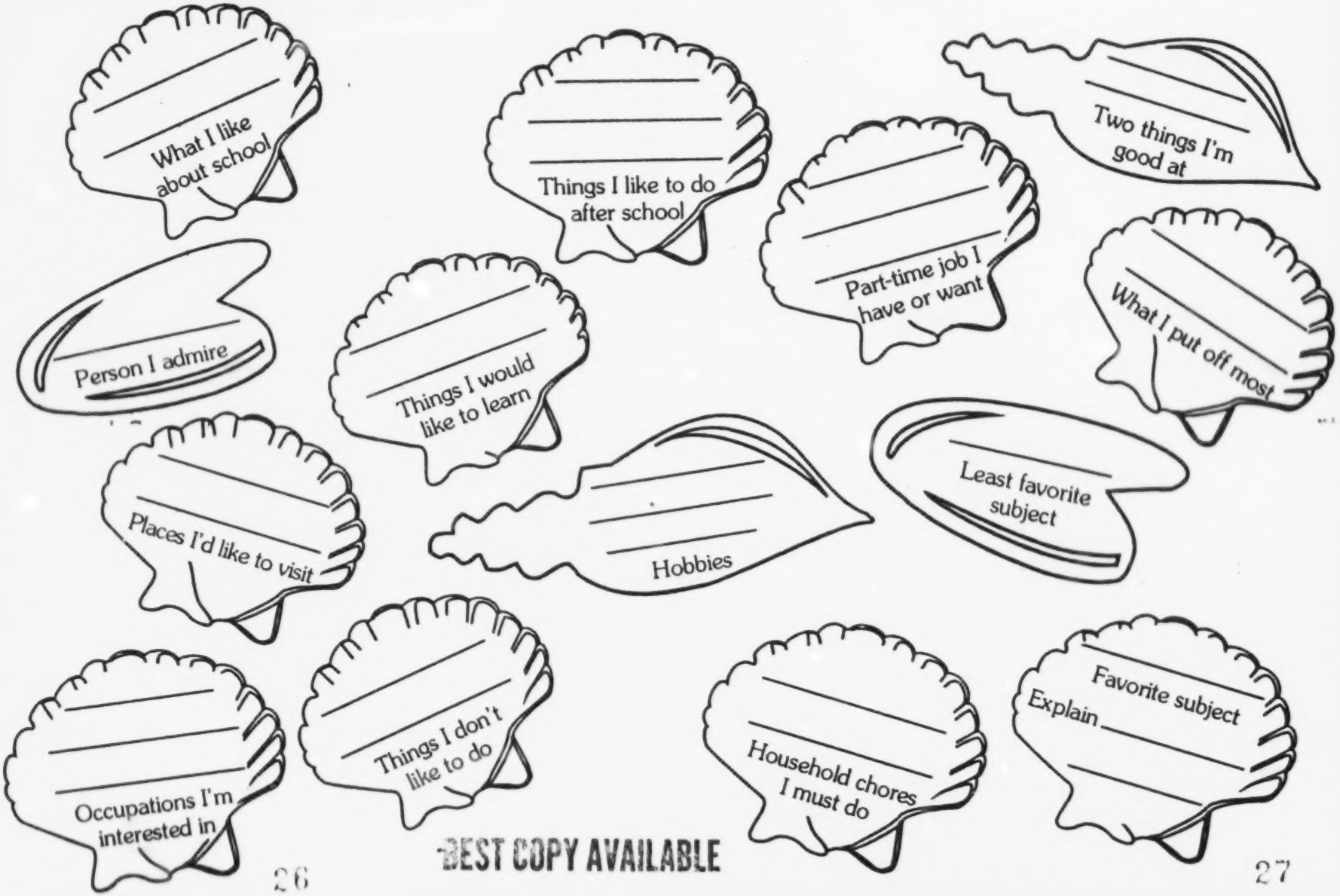
Computerized Career Information Systems. Many schools now have career information on computers. Ask you counselor if your school has any of these programs. If is does, ask if the program has an on-line interest inventory to help you discover how your interests relate to careers.

Career Awareness Activities

Ask your counselor or teacher about any career testing, career fairs or employer field trips that your school may be able to provide.

The Shell Game

Fill in each shell with an appropriate response. How do your likes or dislikes relate to the career you are interested in pursuing?


What I like about school
Things I like to do after school
Two things I'm good at
Part-time job I have or want
What I put off most
Person I admire
Things I would like to learn
Hobbies
Least favorite subject
Places I'd like to visit
Occupations I'm interested in
Things I don't like to do
Household chores I must do
Favorite subject
Explain

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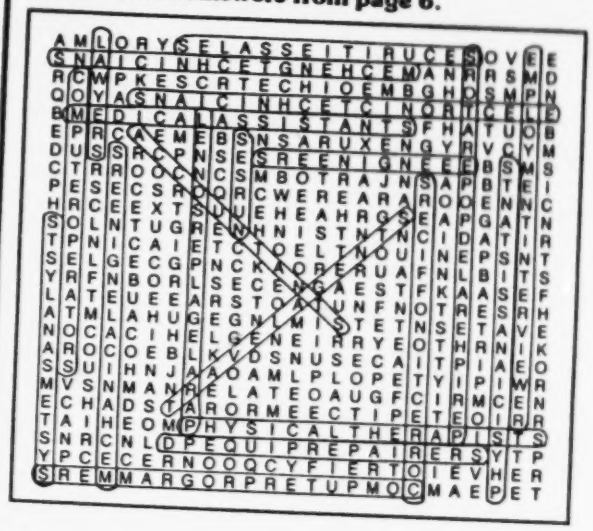
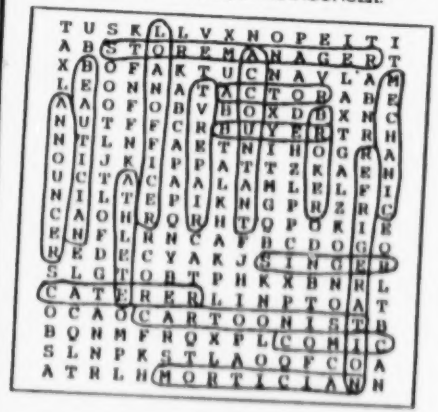
Word Search Answers from page 6.



Careers in the USA Answers from page 5.

1. COMIC, 2. MORTICIAN, 3. TV REPAIR, 4. LOAN OFFICER, 5. CATERER, 6. ATHLETE, 7. CARTOONIST, 8. MECHANIC, 9. BROKER, 10. SINGER, 11.R EFRIGERATION, 12.S TORE MANAGER, 13. BEAUTICIAN, 14. ACCOUNTANT, 15. ACTOR, 16. BUYER, 17. ANNOUNCER.



Career Love Letters Answers from page 4.

1. gymnast
2. conductor
3. firefighter
4. teacher
5. chef
6. accountant
7. pilot
8. doctor
9. candymaker
10. runner

Matching Game Answers from page 3.

1-c, 2-h, 3-j, 4-e, 5-d, 6-l, 7-b, 8-g, 9-f, 10-k, 11-a, 12-i.

Answers . . .

Dear Parents:

You are reading a middle school/junior high publication on career and occupational information that will help you assist your son or daughter in making career decisions. Although career exploration may seem premature, planning for a future career should begin as early as seventh and eighth grade. If you wait until your child is already in high school, it may be too late to plan properly. You and your child should plan course selection with the school counselors.

Here are just a few other suggestions on how you can help.

- ✔ *Offer to arrange "job shadowing" activities in your work-place;*
- ✔ *Promote the understanding that one needs good skills in order to qualify for good careers;*
- ✔ *Monitor your child's homework;*
- ✔ *Encourage your child to consult teachers and counselors for help in locating career information;*
- ✔ *Take trips to the library to use the career center; and*
- ✔ *Read and discuss this career newspaper with your child.*

Remember that you are the single most powerful influence on your child's career planning. A career choice is always a personal decision. However, your guidance and direction can make a tremendous difference in your child's life.

HOW DO YOUR INTERESTS RELATE TO CAREERS?

Working can be fun. If you're working in a job that uses your interests and abilities, it can be satisfying as well. Here is some help in exploring careers. Check out the categories below. Do any of these interest you?

If you like to work with **PEOPLE**, here are some hot careers to consider:

- **Education and Human Related Services**
  - Correction Officers
  - Counselors
  - Dieticians
  - Home Health Aides
  - Librarians
  - Medical and Dental Assistants
  - Nurses
  - Nurses Aides
  - Psychologists
  - Recreation Workers
  - Social Workers
  - Teachers
  - Teachers Aides
  - Therapists (Physical, Occupational)

- **Business Related Services**
  - Bank Tellers
  - Paralegal Assistants
  - Personnel Officers
  - Reporters
  - Sales Agents
  - Travel Agents

- **Food Related Services**
  - Cooks
  - Flight Attendants
  - Host/Hostesses

If working with **DATA** is more your thing, consider these careers:

- **Information Processing**
  - Accountants
  - Computer Operators
  - Data Systems Analysts
  - Financial Analysts
  - Insurance Clerks
  - Medical Technicians

- **Scientific and Technical**
  - Cartographers
  - Chemists
  - Construction Inspectors
  - Drafters
  - Engineering Technicians
  - Engineers
  - Environmental Science Technicians
  - Surveyors

Working with **THINGS** can be rewarding and exciting. Here are some additional careers:

- **Building Trades**
  - Electricians
  - Plumbers
  - Masons

- **Production and Repair**
  - Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Mechanics
  - Automotive Mechanics
  - Biomedical Equipment Repairers
  - Computer Operators
  - Computer Service Technicians
  - Electronic Technicians
  - Machine Operators
  - Machinists

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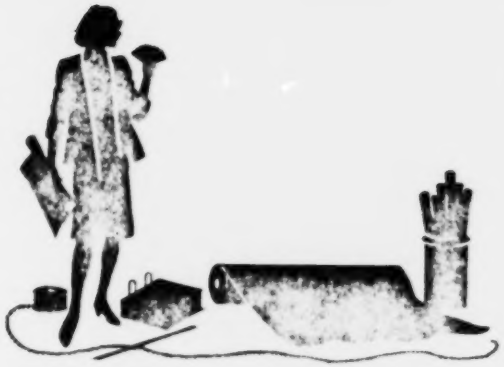
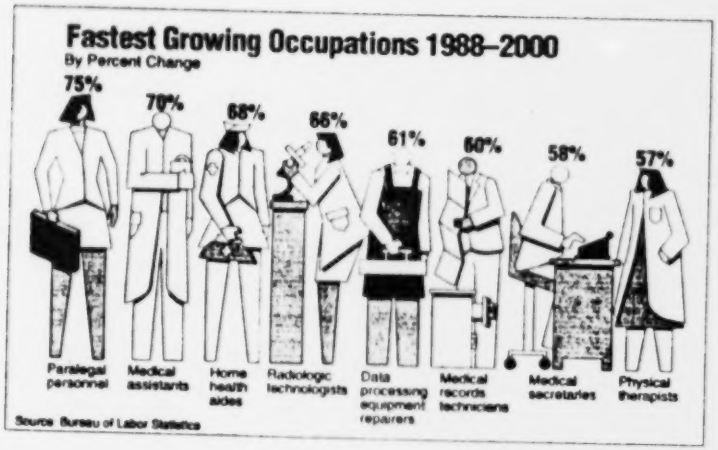
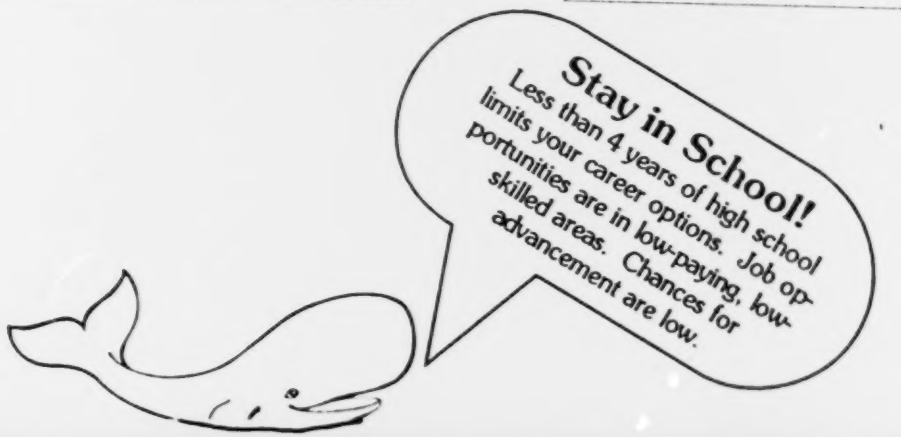
Working with **ART** and **IDEAS** may be more your style. For an opportunity to express your creativity, consider these careers:

Artists
Dancers
Designers (Graphic, Floral and Interior)
Musicians
Photographers
Set and Costume Designers (Theatre)
Stamp Designers



■ **Plants and Animals**
Arborists
Foresters
Groundskeepers
Landscape Gardeners
Veterinary Assistants




Stay in School!
Less than 4 years of high school limits your career options. Job opportunities are in low-paying, low-skilled areas. Chances for advancement are low.